

Pass Compromise On Rumford Act

By EDWIN S. CAPPS
Capitol News Service

SACRAMENTO—Whether it was the "killing of a dream" or the prevention of a nightmare, the State Assembly has approved a bill which is aimed at taking some of the sting out of the Rumford Housing Act.

The lower house voted 46-32 for SB9 by Senator Hugh M. Burns (D-Fresno) as it had been amended substantially by Assemblyman William T. Bagley (R-San Rafael). The Burns bill, as it left the Senate, had been an outright repealer of the Rumford Act. Burns said he offered the bill, not on the merits of the Rumford Act or the lack of them, but because of the overwhelming vote of the people in favor of Proposition 14 in 1964.

The new measure, to be known as the "Bagley-Burns Act" and hopefully erase the controversial name of the Rumford Act, goes into three "sore points" which Bagley said were obvious in the campaign for Proposition 14.

IT WOULD exempt from provisions of non-discrimination single family dwellings so long as a person did not own five or more of them. It would permit a person brought before the Fair Employment Practices Commission, which enforces the open housing law, to have his case transferred from the FEPC to the courts; and it would provide penalties for persons who sought housing only to make test cases and not as bona fide purchasers or renters.

Before the vote on the Bagley-Burns bill, the Assembly turned down an attempt at a straight repealer. That move was sponsored by Assemblyman Joe A. Gonsalves (D-La Mirada) and was defeated by a vote of 28-42.

"The existence of an open housing statute creates an atmosphere of acceptance of our fellow human beings," Bagley said. "If we have a repeal of the Rumford Act we will enrage one segment of the population; if we do not modify the law, we will enrage another segment."

"At this time, we cannot afford to enrage any segment of the population," he said.

THE ROLL CALL on the Bagley-Burns bill was as bipartisan as it could be, with 24 Democrats and 22 Republicans favoring it and 18 Democrats and 14 Republicans opposing it. The opposition generally teamed the more liberal Democrats with the conservative Republicans. All five Negro members of the Assembly, all Democrats, voted against the bill.

Assemblyman John J. Miller (D-Berkeley) said a vote to weaken provisions of the Rumford bill would be "killing the dream" that his people have been living for since the civil war. But Assembly Speaker Jesse M. Unruh (D-Inglewood) who was active in working out the compromise amendments, said this was not so.

"This is not destroying a dream but keeping from changing the dream into a nightmare from which the state would not recover for 50 years," Unruh said. "No law is very good or enforceable if the majority of the people are against it."

"THE ALTERNATIVE to passing this bill is to invite the bigots of each side to have a go at each other," Unruh said. "There is no doubt but what there will be an initiative if this bill does not pass."

Assemblyman Charles J. Conrad (R-Sherman Oaks) who said he was the only person to speak against approval of the Rumford Act

... Robbery

(Continued from Page 1)

the teller rustling the bag for attention and turned on a hidden camera.

However, police had not made a study of the film by Friday.

After emptying her drawer, the bandit apparently was disappointed in his haul asking, "Is that all?"

He fled through a rear door and into a foreign make sports car parked in the sav-

on the Assembly floor in 1963 and one of only nine members voting against it, said the Bagley-Burns bill was worse than repeal. He said it would nullify the right of the people to go to a referendum to repeal the Rumford Act.

The Assembly also defeated amendments by Assemblyman Peter F. Schabarum (R-Covina) which would have made the housing law applicable only to hotels and motels.

ASSEMBLYMEN Vincent Thomas (D-San Pedro), Larry Townsend (D-Torrance), and Robert G. Beverly (R-Manhattan Beach) all voted for adoption of the bill.

Beverly voted in favor of the Rumford Act repealer amendments by Gonsalves and Thomas voted against the repealer. Townsend did not vote on the amendments.

Senate Urged To Pass Bill

SACRAMENTO—Governor Ronald Reagan has issued a strong statement calling for approval of SB9 the now-amended bill which would modify the Rumford Housing Act.

The bill was amended and approved in the Assembly Wednesday but now must have Senate approval of the assembly changes. The bill, SB9 by Senator Hugh M. Burns (D-Fresno) originally would have repealed the entire Rumford Act.

Exam for Patrolmen Scheduled

Young men interested in joining the expanded California Highway Patrol will be able to take the state traffic officer examination Sept. 23. Applications for the test must be filed not later than Aug. 30, according to Patrol Captain P. J. Ford, commander of the South Los Angeles Area.

Applicants must be between 21 and 31 years of age, in good health, at least 5-9 but not more than 6-6, and have at least a high school education.

Salary for state officers begins at \$676 per month and increases to \$783 in three annual steps. Successful candidates will go through 16 weeks of training at the Patrol's Sacramento training facilities and draw full pay during the period.

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Assault Charges Dropped

The common law wife of a man she allegedly tried to murder has been freed by police after Patrick McGee refused to bring charges against Torrance police on the woman of a family argument.

Final Class In Sailing Will Begin

Registration for the final series of summer sailing classes is now being accepted at the Redondo Beach Parks and Recreation Department. Classes will begin next Tuesday and Monday, Aug. 8, required of all students. Sessions meet for two hours. Each applicant must pass a swimming test in order to be eligible for the class.



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